

WHAT CAUSED FIRE

REPORT MADE ON BURNING AT
STATE COLORED COLLEGE.

Inspector Wharton and Chief of Fire Department Dibble, Claim Fire Was Caused by Bad Flue.

Insurance Commissioner McMaster is of the opinion that the fire which destroyed the dormitory and dining room of the State Colored College at Orangeburg several weeks ago was caused by a defective flue in that the flue, according to reports made by the inspector, show that the flue in the building was only one brick thick. A report has been filed with the commissioner by B. A. Wharton, inspector of the insurance department, and T. O. Dibble, chief of the fire department of Orangeburg.

In his report Mr. Dibble says: "I beg to recommend that you request the trustees of this institution that they insist that equipment and hydrants placed on this campus for fire protection be used for no other purpose, and that a regular fire squad be organized and drilled in the use of all appliances; that a regular fire drill be required in order to empty buildings promptly and without panic in case of fire and sufficient fire escapes be provided to all buildings; that hereafter all buildings to be erected be of brick and in accordance with the standard of the S. E. U. A."

By the report of Inspector Wharton it is shown that a thorough investigation of the fire has been made. The cause is fixed as being a defective flue. Inspector Wharton says: "I feel it my duty to call attention to the fact that most, if not all the public buildings in South Carolina, are more or less improperly constructed, either as to construction or heating arrangements or fire escapes or fire extinguishers, and I would for this reason suggest that the time is now ripe for the State of South Carolina to adopt a building code at least for all public buildings, and still better, for the entire State at large, but certainly for the public buildings erected in the State. The loss of money to the State of South Carolina this year from fire caused from improper construction should be presented to every law-maker in such a manner as to convince them of the great need of a building code, at least for all public buildings, if not for the entire State at large. The benefit derived from a reduction in insurance rates in South Carolina from the adoption of a building code would be the saving of thousands of dollars annually, besides giving better protection from fire causes to the property owners all over the State."

In his annual report to the Legislature, Commissioner McMaster will recommend a law to govern the construction of chimneys to prevent such conflagrations.

Inspector Wharton says in his report in part: "You will appreciate the fact that in most cases to attempt to establish the origin or cause of a fire after a total destruction of a building by fire is a difficult problem. However, in this case sufficient evidence could be had from the five flues yet standing to determine and establish the cause of the fire beyond any and all reasonable doubt. After going over the situation most carefully and making diligent inquiry of those about the building on the night of the fire as to what the conditions were in the building prior to the fire, with the result that the mystery was no near-solved than when I first went to the burned building. I was determined to locate the cause if possible. I discovered directly in the vicinity where all parties agree that the fire started, what I thought and was satisfied was a defective flue. This was at a point in the flue between the ceiling of the first floor and the flooring of the second floor. The next point was to satisfy myself as to whether or not it was a defective flue."

Continuing, the inspector says, after telling of the difficulty in reaching the standing chimney, and of calling upon Chief Dibble for assistance, that he found the following condition: "The accumulation of soot, the appearance of fire having passed through from the inside of the flue to the outside of the flue and in and between the wall of the ceiling and flooring of the first and second floor."

When the point of the flue was finally reached by knocking one brick off at a time, the bricks showed that there was no mortar between them, according to the inspector, and continuing, he says: "But it was plainly shown that fire and smoke had been passing through between the brick in the wall between the ceiling and flooring, as above stated, and there is no telling how long this condition had existed."

"This investigation was most thorough, and I unhesitatingly and without doubt in my mind say that the cause of the fire was a defective flue."

The report continues: "Further," the inspector says, "I feel it my duty in this report also to have a word to say as to the construction of the flues in this college. I regard all the flues of this building improperly constructed. These were larger and tall flues with the thickness of the wall, only four inches."

Chief Dibble, after stating that the Gamwell Fire Alarm system is used in giving fire alarms, says: "This institution and Claflin University having no alarm boxes, we gave them the same number on our transmitting board and furnished cards to them so that there would be no delay in case of fire. I explained the system to Mr. Wharton, when here, and it is very simple if any one would just take time to read the instructions furnished on the cards distributed."

"This alarm was not received at headquarters from the college, but run in from a box at the corner of East Russell and Railroad avenue, quite a distance from the college, which caused some delay in the arrival of the department. When we arrived on the grounds which was very promptly, after receiving the alarm, we found that the authorities at the college had allowed the use of pipe wrenches to open and close hydrants to such an extent that the regulation hydrant wrench used by the fire department to turn on water was absolutely useless and further time was lost after hose was laid in getting water. This fact in my opinion accounts for the failure of President Miller to get water when he laid the hose into the house after discovering the fire. They were either hunting for a pipe wrench or when they tried to turn on the water did not open the hydrant fully, because since this fire I have figured out what the water pressure should be at that level, with simply gravity pressure on mains, and he should have had at least 10 pounds at the pipe."

"I have learned from President Miller since the fire that the fire squad at the college had no practice during this term and that the students had not been instructed in the use of fire extinguishers recently installed in the various buildings. He had 500 feet of good hose and about ten extinguishers on the grounds, but it seems that there was no fire drills or preparation to protect property should fire occur, and this is absolutely essential owing to the distance to be covered by the city fire department before they can get to work."

WINS STATE CORN PRIZE.

Mr. James M. Moss, of Cameron, a Model Farmer.

Mr. James M. Moss, who lives in the Cameron section, was awarded the first prize of \$200 by the State corn contest commission, which met a few days ago. His yield was 500.5 bushels on five acres. He made 72.2 points out of the possible 100. In speaking of Mr. Moss the St. Matthews correspondent of The News and Courier says:

"Mr. Moss is an illustration of the fact that it is the man behind the gun that counts. His present plantation, which is acknowledged to be one of the most fertile and productive in the entire State, and which included the land on which the corn was planted, was acknowledged to be one of the poorest plantations in this section when Mr. Moss purchased it years ago. The fertility of this land is due to the fact that he uses quantities of home-made compost and rotates his crops. His farm is also thoroughly drained by underground tiling, and is now a garden spot and in every sense of the word a model farm. He not only raises all of his supplies, but derives a handsome profit from the sale of asparagus, corn, wheat, oats and hay, cotton and also hogs, sheep and cattle."

"Mr. Moss is one of the few farmers who keep a detailed book account of the cost of every crop he raises. There is a big demand in various sections for his seed oats, cotton seed, and seed of other of his farm crops. Mr. Moss is now a man of considerable means. He has a large family of boys and girls, to whom he has given the very best college educations; all of which goes to prove that with the right man farm life in South Carolina is not only a most independent life, but also a most remunerative one."

WHISKEY BIDS OPENED.

Some One Hundred Bids Were Filed With Board.

The county dispensary board Wednesday opened the bids for the sale of the whiskey which still is on hand at the county dispensary warehouse. There were about 100 bids, ranging all the way from the smallest amounts which would be disposed of to bids by persons desiring barrel lots. The amount bid for will not clear the stock now on hand and it will be necessary to advertise for bids again and hold another sale. The stock on hand before the sale was about \$7,000 worth of whiskey and the bids will not reduce the stock over \$2,500 or \$3,000.

The law required that the bids be made out in triplicate and that a copy be filed at the office of the county auditor, county clerk or court and the dispensary board. A number of the bidders failed to comply with these rules, thereby debaring themselves from a chance to purchase.

Some of the bidders were too anxious to procure their special brand and offered prices which were above the regular retail prices during the days of the dispensary.

It will be a few days before the business of the bidding will be all completed, as this time will be taken up in placing the highest bidders at the top of the list and filling orders in this manner, then the board can determine how much stock will remain on hand. All the bids received were from this county.

COTTON MARKET.

New York Futures.		
	Open	Close.
January	14.98	14.93
March	15.35	15.31
May	15.67	15.61
July	15.69	15.59
August	15.38-39	15.30
September		14.00
October		13.45
December		14.85

Orangeburg Market.
Local Spots—14.75.

MASONIC GRAND LODGE

MEET IN CHARLESTON AND
ELECT GRAND OFFICERS.

The Sum for the Masonic Orphanage Growing, But Orphanage Will Not be Erected Now.

The Grand Lodge of Masons of South Carolina met in Charleston on Tuesday and closed on Wednesday. This was the one hundred and thirty-third annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, and was very harmonious, many matters of importance being discussed but no radical changes being made in the rules of the order.

The question of physical qualification was left undisturbed, the committee having reported that it had no recommendation to make. However it will be brought up again at the next Communication. Past Master W. M. Whitehead, having given notice of an amendment to the rules in this particular, which will be considered next year.

The trustees of the Masonic Orphanage fund reported that \$10,000 had been added to the fund since the last Communication, and that the fund now amounts to \$33,400. The report was received as information. The Grand Lodge will make no move to establish a home until a large amount is in hand.

The following officers were elected:

Grand Master, James R. Johnson, of Charleston.

Deputy Grand Master, George S. Mower, of Newberry.

Senior Grand Warden, George T. Bryan, of Greenville.

Junior Grand Warden, R. A. Cooper, of Laurens.

Grand Treasurer, Zimmerman Davis, of Charleston.

Grand Secretary, Jacob T. Barron, of Columbia.

Grand Chaplain, the Rev. W. P. Smith, of Spartanburg.

The newly elected officers were duly installed according to the ancient rites of the Craft.

The following officers were appointed:

Senior Grand Deacons: J. P. Duckett, of Anderson, and J. F. Kinney, of Bennettsville.

Junior Grand Deacons: O. F. Hart, of Columbia, and A. H. Schade, of Greenville.

Grand Stewards: S. T. D. Lancaster, of Pauline, and L. I. Parrott, of Sumter.

Grand Marshal, John Kennerly, of Cokesbury.

Grand Pursivant, J. E. Cogswell, of Charleston.

Grand Tyler, W. A. Winkler, of Charleston.

The Grand Master also announced the appointment of the following committees:

On Hall: W. M. Whitehead, W. E. Gantt, M. B. Barkley and T. Allen Legare.

On Cemetery: R. P. Evans, W. C. Miller, W. H. Prioleau and E. M. Schmetzer.

On Charity: I. W. Hirsch, R. A. Sherfesse, H. Blank and John Harleston.

The following were appointed District Deputy Grand Masters and all of those present were duly installed:

First, W. G. Mazzyk, Charleston; Second, S. H. Rogers, Beaufort; Third, Butler Hazood, Barnwell; Fourth, W. A. Gilles, Graniteville; Fifth, B. E. Nicholson, Edgefield; Sixth, Dr. J. B. Hughey, Greenwood; Seventh, J. B. Douthitt, Pendleton; Eighth, O. R. Doyle, Clemson; Ninth, A. S. Rowell, Piedmont; Tenth, Dr. W. B. Patton, Cross Anchor; Eleventh, Van Smith, Newberry; Twelfth, E. C. Secret, Lancaster; Thirteenth, Joseph Lindsay, Chester; Fourteenth, G. L. Riskey, Sumter; Fifteenth, R. K. Wallace, Kings-tree; Sixteenth, J. C. Sellers, Sellers; Eighteenth, W. L. Glaze, Orangeburg.

The Grand Lodge by resolution, appropriate the sum of \$100 with which to procure a suitable testimonial to be presented to the retiring Grand Master, James L. Michie, who was succeeded by Grand Master Johnson, and the following committee was appointed to carry out the resolution: W. E. James, J. T. Barron and J. C. Sellers.

It was resolved to hold the next Communication in Charleston.

Make Their Report.

The final meeting of the commissioners in the matter of the proposed annexation of a part of Berkeley county to Orangeburg county was held Wednesday at Eutawville in Berkeley county. The four commissioners, B. H. Moss and G. M. Norris for Orangeburg county and T. L. Conner and J. S. White for Berkeley county, were all present and the final report was made and sent to Governor Ansel. The plat of the area desiring to join Orangeburg county made by the official surveyors, T. C. Hamby of Columbia and F. W. Frederick of Rowesville, was accepted and it was found that all constitutional requirements were met with. The report sent to the governor was unanimously accepted by the commissioners and the election will doubtless be ordered by the governor at an early date.

Bazaar a Success.

The bazaar held by the ladies of the Branchville Methodist church last week was a great success. This was the annual event of the kind and was considered by everyone to be the best one ever held in Branchville. The net proceeds of the sale of the goods amounted to \$351.43. This money will be used in refurbishing the parsonage. Everything was arranged most tastefully in the town hall. What would the church do if it was not for the good women in it?

NEWS FROM BRANCHVILLE.

Methodist Bazaar a Grand Success.

Other Local News.

Branchville, Dec. 15.—Special: The Bazaar given by the ladies of the Methodist church last week came to a close on last Friday night. This was the annual event of the kind and was considered by everyone to be the best one ever held in Branchville. The net proceeds of the sale of the goods amounted to \$351.43. This money will be used by the ladies in refurbishing the parsonage.

Everything was arranged most tastefully in the Town Hall. There were booths for a country store, ice cream, cake, aprons, fruit, candy, handkerchiefs, dolls and fancy work, with a great big table on the stage for serving supper and oysters. Each booth was decorated beautifully and the manager of each booth thought that theirs was more beautiful than the other ones. All the merchandise that was offered for sale in the booths was sold before the time arrived to close the bazaar. Large crowds were present each night and everyone seemed to be having a good time and trying to make everyone else happy, too. The bazaar this year was a great event and will be remembered by all for a long time. This was the second bazaar that has been held here in the past thirty days and the success of the former was about as good as the latter.

Personal Notes.

Messrs. W. M. Warren, Nell Steedly and Walter Kenedy left yesterday for Ashepool station, where they go to spend several days hunting deer and other game. The party traveled via the Edisto river, in a batteau.

Mr. E. C. Utsey, of Charleston, who came up several days ago to attend the funeral of his brother, is spending several days in town before returning to his post of duty with the Southern Railway Company in Charleston.

Mr. William C. Peebles, assistant superintendent of the Western Union Telegraph Company, with headquarters in Jacksonville, spent several days in town last week, attending to important business for the company.

C. H. Baker, of Jacksonville, had business in town last Monday. Mr. Baker came from Charleston and left in the afternoon for his home at Jacksonville.

W. H. Lott, of Saint George, attended the public sales held here last Saturday.

H. D. Doid, of Adams Run, stopped over in town last night on his way to Orangeburg to see his daughter, who is attending the O. C. I. Mr. Doid was a guest of his sister, Mrs. T. D. Fender, while in town.

Mr. J. W. Wiley, who left a few weeks ago to visit his sister, Mrs. Hanberry, in Summerville, Miss., returned home today and reports having had a very pleasant time while on his trip.

Rev. J. R. Sojourner, who was stationed at Smoaks in 1908, was in town today en route to Smoaks where he goes to visit some of his old friends.

D. L. Rhoad has returned from Abbeville, where he went as a delegate to the Methodist conference.

Mrs. M. K. McDuffie has returned from Elko, where she went to visit her sister.

The camps of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company that has been located here for the past three weeks, under the efficient management of Mr. Watkins, left today for Grover, where they will locate for the next ten days.

Rev. E. H. Beckham has returned from conference and is getting ready to move to Johnston, where he was assigned to preach next year.

Personal Notes.

Branchville, Dec. 16.—Special: F. M. George, of Augusta, spent several days in town last week as the guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Tucker. Mr. George had not visited Branchville before in several months and his friends were glad to see him again.

W. A. Warren spent several days in Columbia last week, where he went to attend to some important business.

Miss Addie Glover, of Aiken, spent last Sunday in town as the guest of Miss Elmira Harden.

Mr. and Mrs. Wade Foster, of Denmark, visited relatives and friends in town last week.

J. R. Ligon, of Sumter, arrived in town last week to make preparations for the grand auction sale of lots that will be conducted here next Tuesday. Mr. Ligon has had considerable experience in real estate deals and in all probability will make a success in this one.

Miss Georgia Smoak, of Greensboro, N. C., visited relatives and friends in town last week. Her many friends were glad to see her again.

John Martin Rushton, of Bennettsville, is spending some time in town as the guest of his sister, Mrs. B. X. Minus.

Miss Estelle Carter has left for her home in Columbia, after having spent several days in town visiting relatives and friends.

A. S. Sabiu, of the firm of Sabiu & Morrison, returned this week from Chattanooga, Tenn., where he spent several days last week on business. While away Mr. Sabiu purchased a new locomotive for logging purposes. On his return Mr. Sabiu joined Mrs. Sabiu in Spartanburg, where she has been visiting for several days.

Advice to Farmers.

Senator Smith gives the farmers good advice when he tells them not to increase the acreage of cotton next year, but to plant grain and provide those things where-with they can live at home. It is to be hoped that the farmers will profit by the lesson this year's experience has taught.

LOCAL NEWS ITEMS

PICKED UP ALL OVER TOWN BY
OUR REPORTERS.

What is Happening in the Country
as Well as in the Cities and Towns.

Mrs. W. S. Leming and child, of Jacksonville, are visiting relatives in the city.

The Orangeburg Collegiate Institute will close today for the Christmas holidays.

Sims' Book Store has a lot of suitable things for Christmas presents. Call and see them.

Mrs. Chivalotte Simms Rowe, of Charleston, came up to attend the Griffin-Tharin wedding Wednesday evening.

Rev. C. B. Smith, Presiding Elder, will preach at St. Paul's Methodist church tomorrow morning at the usual hour.

Mrs. S. H. Brown, of New York, is in the city on a visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kohn, on east Russell street.

The express office should be kept open all the time during business hours. This is the way it is done in cities, and Orangeburg is no longer a village.

The attention of our readers is directed to the half page advertisement of Mr. Jas. C. Fairley on page five. Read what he has to say—then give him a call.

Prof. Harold A. Loring has returned from Columbia, where he delivered his lecture-recital, "The North American Indian and His Music," before the students of the University of South Carolina.

The Calhoun Advance says: "The Orangeburg editors took good care of the representatives of the press at the goods roads convention on Wednesday night. They don't know how to do things by halves." Come again.

Rev. H. W. Bays, D. D., the new pastor of St. Paul's Methodist church, is expected to arrive in Orangeburg about next Thursday or Friday, and will preach his first sermon here on the Sunday morning following.

On Wednesday afternoon at the residence of Rev. D. D. Dantzer, on Whitman street, Mr. LeRoy Rucker and Miss Rosa Godwin, of the Raymond section, were happily married. Rev. Dantzer performed the ceremony.

Rev. L. P. McGee and family will leave for their new field of labor at Laurens on next Thursday morning. They feel very much attached to all the people of Orangeburg and will never forget their many acts of win-

Read Dr. Wannamaker's talk on Christmas gift giving in today's issue. It is practical and worth reading. The up to date drug store is always a great help to the people and any good news from Wannamaker's is certainly worth while.

The Camden News says, "Mr. H. L. Schlossberg is at Orangeburg for a short time, where he bought an immense stock of goods at a bargain. He is selling off part of the stock there and will bring the remainder to Camden and dispose of it here."

About the tenth of January a new bank will be opened at Wagener, as a branch of the Bank of Western Carolina, which begun business on the tenth of this month, with the head office in Aiken. Already a number of branch institutions have been opened by the institution.

If you are trying to think of the best Christmas gift for a friend at small cost, we would suggest a year's subscription to The Times and Democrat. The visit of the paper three times each week would keep you constantly in your friend's mind and would only cost you \$1.50.

The Carlisle Fitting School at Bamberg will be reopened next fall. At the recent session of the South Carolina Annual Conference an assessment of \$1,500 was made for the school and this will insure its opening next fall. Now, let our people come to its support also.

Mr. J. D. Bolen requests us to say that he has just received a lot of the best horses and mules ever brought to Orangeburg and desires all who are in the market for stock to inspect, them before buying. They can be seen in Mr. E. N. Scovill's yard in the rear of his store.

Happily Married.

Mr. R. H. Griffin, of Spartanburg, and Miss Chivalotte, daughter of Col. A. W. Tharin, were happily married at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. E. S. Bruner, on Wednesday evening. The Rev. L. P. McGee officiating. The groom is a successful young business man of Spartanburg, and the bride is one of Orangeburg's handsomest and most charming young ladies. The home where the marriage was celebrated was handsomely decorated in green and white. The young couple have gone on a bridal tour to Florida. After that is over they will take up their residence in Spartanburg. The best wishes of many friends accompany the happy young couple.

Has Been Brought Here.

Mr. William Funches has brought his little boy, who was kicked in the head some time ago by a horse, to this city for treatment. The little boy has been at the Columbia hospital since the unfortunate accident and is getting some better. While here he will be entertained at Mrs. V. Smith's home on Glover street and will be in charge of a trained nurse. Dr. L. C. Shecut will give him all the medical attention he needs. We hope the little fellow will soon be well.

Let the

House of McNamara

Head Your Christmas Shopping List.

What more natural than to go to the Men's Shop for those things intended for your Gentlemen Friends. It is our business to know what will please Men and Boys, and we do. Let us suggest such useful gifts as:

Bath Robes	\$3.50 to \$10.00
Smoking Jackets	5.00 to 7.50
Gloves	1.00 to 3.00
Collar Bags	1.25 to 2.00
Scarf Cases	1.25 to 2.00
Silk Neckwear50 to 2.00
Silk Mufflers	1.00 to 2.50
Silk Suspenders75 to 1.50
Silk Umbrellas	2.50 to 5.00
Fancy Vests	2.50 to 5.00
Kuppenheimer Suits and Overcoats.	
Regal Shoes and Stetson Hats.	

We take pleasure in showing what we have.

The House of McNamara

GLOVER'S

Our Store is Headquarters
for Men's Christmas Gifts

There is no need for anybody to go shopping for men's Christmas Gifts. We have fine assortments of almost everything a man likes to receive in the way of Gifts—things to wear, to give comfort, to use. Our Assortments are greater and more varied than you can find anywhere else in town.

Good Gifts For Men

Neckwear, Sweaters, Smoking Jackets,	Suspenders, Bath Robes, Suits,	Mufflers, Overcoats, Hosiery,
Pagamas, Fancy Vests, Scarf Pins,	Shirts, Handkerchiefs, Shirt Studs,	Night Shirts, Gloves, Sleeve Links,
Walking Sticks, Hats and Caps,	Umbrellas, Raincoats.	

Many articles in the line of
Furnishings come handsomely
boxed, and make most attractive
Gifts, though little priced.

GLOVER'S

Orangeburg, S. C.

Great Holiday Sale

Morris Mirmow--The Golden Rule Store

This Great Holiday Sale is creating quite a sensation with the shopping public. Of course you read our big advertisement in which we itemized our several great bar-gains, which were bought, some as low as 40 cents on the dollar, and are offered in this Great Holiday Sale at this great reduction.

SANTA CLAUS IN THE ANNEX

Thousands of Articles to Interest You

It is fun to see the children admiring Santa Claus in the Annex. Come and see us. You will be more than pleased.

Great Holiday Sale

MORRIS MIRMOW'S THE GOLDEN RULE STORE

32 Russell Street Orangeburg, S. C.